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Art Unit 2878; Examiner Luu

STATUS OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-19 Cancelled.

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1
2 20. [Allowed, now amended as to form]. A method of measuring motion within a
3
4 fluid body comprising the steps of:
5
6 (a) injecting a plurality of solid particles into the fluid body in dispersed relation
7 to move therewith;
8
9 (b) applying a short pulse of light through an objective lens to the fluid body so as
10 to broadly illuminate the fluid body, and then repeating the application of the light pulse
11 after a known time delay;
12
13 (c) after each pulse of the ~~impinging~~ applied light, observing through the same
14 objective lens the light scattered from the individual solid particles;
15
16 (d) wherein only light from the solid particles lying within the depth of field of the
17 objective lens will produce well-focused discrete images of discrete particles, thereby
determining a two-dimensional measurement plane in the flowing fluid; and
(e) comparing discrete images of discrete particles successively observed in the
measurement plane as a function of time to determine the motion of the fluid body.

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21. [Allowed] The method of Claim 20 wherein an image recording device is positioned to receive light transmitted from the test device through the objective lens for recording discrete images of discrete particles.

22. [Allowed] The method of Claim 20 wherein the images of discrete particles are observed to determine two vectorial components of the measurement field.

23. [Allowed] The method of Claim 20 wherein the wavelength of the light lies within the range of ultraviolet to infrared.

24. [Allowed] The method of Claim 23 wherein the wavelength of the light is within the ultraviolet range.

25. [Allowed] The method of Claim 23 wherein the wavelength of the light is within the infrared range.

26. [Allowed] The method of Claim 23 wherein the wavelength of the light is within the visible range.

27. [Allowed] The method of Claim 20 wherein the light pulses are applied at periodic intervals and the comparison is accomplished by analyzing a successively

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recorded time sequence of discrete images of discrete particles by average correlation analysis at multiple points within the image field to determine the average fluid velocities of multiple respective points within the two-dimensional measurement plane.

28. [Allowed] The method of Claim 27 wherein the images of discrete particles are observed to determine two vectorial components of the measurement field.

29. [Allowed] The method of Claim 20 wherein the light pulses are applied to a half-silvered mirror, and are reflected from the mirror into the fluid body.

30. [Allowed] The method of Claim 29 wherein an image recording device is positioned to receive light transmitted from the test device through the objective lens and the mirror, for recording discrete images of discrete particles.

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1 31. [Allowed, now amended as to form] A method of measuring motion within a
2 fluid body comprising the steps of:

3 (a) injecting a plurality of solid particles into the fluid body in dispersed relation
4 to move therewith;

5 (b) periodically applying short pulses of light with a known time separation to a
6 mirror so as to be reflected from the mirror through an objective lens into the fluid body so
7 as to then broadly illuminate the fluid body;

8 (c) after each ~~pulse of impinging~~ applied pulse of light, observing through the same
9 objective lens the light scattered from the individual solid particles, whereby only light from
10 the solid particles lying within the depth of field of the objective lens will produce well-
11 focused discrete images of discrete particles, thereby determining a two-dimensional
12 measurement plane in the flowing fluid; and

13 (d) then comparing successively observed discrete images of discrete particles as
14 a function of time to determine the motion of the fluid body.

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32. [Allowed] The method of Claim 31 wherein an image recording device is positioned to receive scattered light transmitted through the objective lens for recording discrete images of discrete particles.

33. [Allowed] The method of Claim 32 wherein the images of discrete particles are observed to determine two vectorial components of the measurement field.

34. [Allowed] The method of Claim 31 wherein the wavelength of the light lies within the range of ultraviolet to infrared.

35. [Allowed] The method of Claim 34 wherein the wavelength of the light is within the ultraviolet range.

36. [Allowed] The method of Claim 34 wherein the wavelength of the light is within the infrared range.

37 [Allowed] The method of Claim 34 wherein the wavelength of the light is within the visible range.

38. [Allowed] The method of Claim 31 wherein the comparison is accomplished by analyzing a successively recorded time sequence of discrete images of discrete

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particles by average correlation analysis at multiple points within the image field to determine the average fluid velocities of multiple respective points within a two-dimensional measurement plane.

39. [Allowed] The method of Claim 38 wherein the images of discrete particles are observed to determine two vectorial components of fluid velocity.

40. [Allowed] The method of Claim 31 wherein the duration of the pulses of light is of the order of five nanoseconds, and the known time separation between pulses is in the approximate range of several nanoseconds to several seconds.

41 - 44 [Withdrawn].

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45. [Amended]. A method of measuring motion within a fluid body comprising the steps of:

(a) selecting solid particles that will follow the motion of the fluid body;

(b) injecting a plurality of the solid particles into the fluid body in dispersed relation to move therewith;

(c) repetitively applying a short pulse of light at periodic intervals to broadly illuminate the fluid body;

(d) after each ~~pulse of the impinging~~ applied pulse of light, observing light scattered from the individual particles through an objective lens, whereby only light from the solid particles lying within the depth of field of the objective lens will produce well-focused discrete images of discrete particles, thereby determining a two-dimensional measurement plane in the flowing fluid; and

(e) then comparing successively observed discrete images of discrete particles as a function of time to determine the ~~motion~~ velocity of the fluid body.

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46. [Resubmitted] The method of claim 45 wherein the pulses of impinging light are applied through an objective lens having a high numerical aperture, and the scattered light is observed through the same objective lens.

47. [Resubmitted] The method of claim 45 wherein the images of discrete particles are observed to determine two vectorial components of the measurement field.

48. [Resubmitted] The method of claim 46 wherein the images of discrete particles are observed to determine two vectorial components of the measurement field.

49. [Resubmitted] The method of Claim 45 wherein the wavelength of the light lies within the range of ultraviolet to infrared.

50. [Resubmitted] The method of Claim 49 wherein the wavelength of the light is within the ultraviolet range.

51. [Resubmitted] The method of Claim 49 wherein the wavelength of the light is within the infrared range.

52. [Resubmitted] The method of Claim 49 wherein the wavelength of the light is within the visible range.

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1 53. [Allowed] A method of measuring with approximately microscale spatial
2 resolution the velocity of a flowing fluid, the method comprising the steps of:

3 (a) injecting into the fluid a plurality of solid particles that approximately follow the
4 motion of the flowing fluid,

5 (b) selecting a light source for repetitively delivering closely spaced pulses of light
6 having a known duration of the order of five nanoseconds, and a known time delay
7 between the spaced pulses in the approximate range of several nanoseconds to several
8 seconds;

9 (c) positioning a microscope objective lens having a known depth of field to
10 transmit pulses of light from the light source into the flowing fluid and positioned to image
11 within the flowing fluid;

12 (d) gathering pulses of light, scattered by the solid particles contained within the
13 flowing fluid, through the same microscope objective lens;

14 (e) relaying the gathered pulses of light from the objective lens to an image
15 recording device, thereby recording discrete images of discrete particles;

16 (f) wherein only light from the solid particles lying within the depth of field of the
17 objective lens will produce well-focused discrete images of discrete particles that are
18 recorded by the image recording device, thereby determining a two-dimensional
19 measurement plane in the flowing fluid; and

20 (g) which further includes the step of analyzing a successively recorded time
21 sequence of discrete images of discrete particles by average correlation analysis at
22 multiple points within the image field to determine the average fluid velocities at multiple
23 respective points within the two-dimensional measurement plane.

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54. [Allowed] The method of Claim 53 wherein the wavelength of the light lies within the range of ultraviolet to infrared.

55. [Allowed] The method of Claim 54 wherein the wavelength of the light is within the ultraviolet range.

56. [Allowed] The method of Claim 54 wherein the wavelength of the light is within the infrared range.

57. [Allowed] The method of Claim 54 wherein the wavelength of the light is within the visible range.

58 – 59. [Withdrawn]